

Message Text

SECRET

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62

ORIGIN SS-15

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /016 R

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DRAFTED BY: NEA:AEGRIFFIN:SKG

APPROVED BY: NEA:ALATHERTON, JR.

S/S-O:DLMACK

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P 010307Z FEB 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY CAIRO PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV PRIORITY

S E C R E T STATE 024956

STADIS////////////////////////////////////

EXDIS

FOLLOWING REPEAT GENEVA 0692 ACTION SECSTATE 30 JANUARY 76.

QUOTE

S E C R E T GENEVA 0692

STADIS

EXDIS

FOR D/HA - SIEVERTS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ICRC, PFOR, IS, EG

SUBJECT: ICRC ASSISTANCE IN ISRAELI BODY EXCHANGE

REF: GENEVA 0076 AND PREVIOUS

1. CONVERS, HAVING RETURNED FROM TRIP TO CAIRO, TEL AVIV
AND DAMASCUS, INFORMED MISOFF TODAY THAT POSITIONS ON
EXCHANGE OF EGYPTIAN DETAINEES FOR ISRAELI BODIES HAD HARDENED

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CONSIDERABLY. EGYPTIAN WAR MINISTER HAD TOLD HIM EGYPT WOULD

NOT RETURN ISRAELI BODIES, INCLUDING TWO KILLED IN 1955,
UNTIL ALL RPT ALL EGYPTIAN DETAINEES HAD BEEN RELEASED
BY ISRAEL, AS HE STATED WAS PROVIDED FOR IN ORIGINAL AGREEMENT.
CONVERS SAID MINISTER'S STATEMENT LED HIM BELIEVE EGYPTIANS
HAVE AT LEAST SOME KNOWLEDGE WHERE NINE ISRAELI BODIES IN
DISPUTE ARE BURIED.

2. CONVERS SAID HE CONFIDENT THAT ISRAELIS WOULD PROCEED
WITH RELEASE OF TWENTY EGYPTIAN DETAINEES
THROUGH ICRC IN NEAR FUTURE. HOWEVER, HE ADDED THAT
PERES HAD TOLD HIM GOI WOULD NOT RELEASE REMAINDER
(APPROXIMATELY THIRTEEN) UNTIL ALL ISRAELI BODIES ARE
RETURNED. CONVERS SAID PERES TOLD HIM HIS GOVERNMENT
CERTAIN EGYPTIANS IN POSSESSION OF NINE REMAINS IN
QUESTION.

3. CONVERS SAID ICRC PLANS NO FURTHER MOVES IN MATTER
FOR PRESENT AND/OR UNTIL ONE SIDE OR OTHER MAKES MOVE.
BUT, OTHER THAN FOR RELEASE OF TWENTY, HE FEELS THAT
SITUATION NOW AT ANOTHER IMPASSE.DALE UNQUOTE KISSINGER

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

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